



March 14, 2017

Members of the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee
Chairman Tyson

RE: Tax Exempt Status of the Kansas DUI Impact Center
2017 SB 140 (Support)

DeVaughn James Injury Lawyers represents individuals who have been hurt in automobile collisions. We have represented over 2,000 Kansans from all corners of the state whose lives have been changed by an automobile collision that was NOT their fault. Someone else chose to drive drunk, run a red light or speed into oncoming traffic, and our clients/your voters suffer. Not only does the collision injure them physically, but it also often leads to financial ruin and require reliance on social welfare programs.

Drinking and Driving is a problem for everyone. On average, a drunk driver will drive 80 times under the influence before their first arrest. Traffic collisions are leading cause of death for American Teens and roughly 1/3 of these collision involve alcohol or drugs. I regularly meet people whose lives have been affected by impaired drivers.

We all know impaired driving is a problem. However, the Kansas DUI Impact Center is doing something about this problem. I know how important the Kansas DUI Impact Center is because my clients use their services. My clients have turned to the DUI impact center for grief counseling and assistance in healing emotionally.

I have personally attended educational programs and functions presented by the Kansas DUI Impact Center and have used their materials to educate my children on the dangers of impaired driving.

The Kansas DUI Impact Center deserves tax exempt status. This will allow them to continue to serve Kansans affected by Drunk Driving and educate others of this problem. I urge you to support this bill for the good of my clients, my children and your constituents.

Best Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Richard W. James'.

Richard W. James
DEVAUGHN JAMES INJURY LAWYERS
rjames@devaughnjames.com